



# Santa Clarita Valley

Community Newsletter • June 2007

## County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

**Gloria Molina**  
First District

**Yvonne B. Burke**  
Second District

**Zev Yaroslavsky**  
Third District

**Don Knabe**  
Fourth District

**Michael D. Antonovich**  
Fifth District

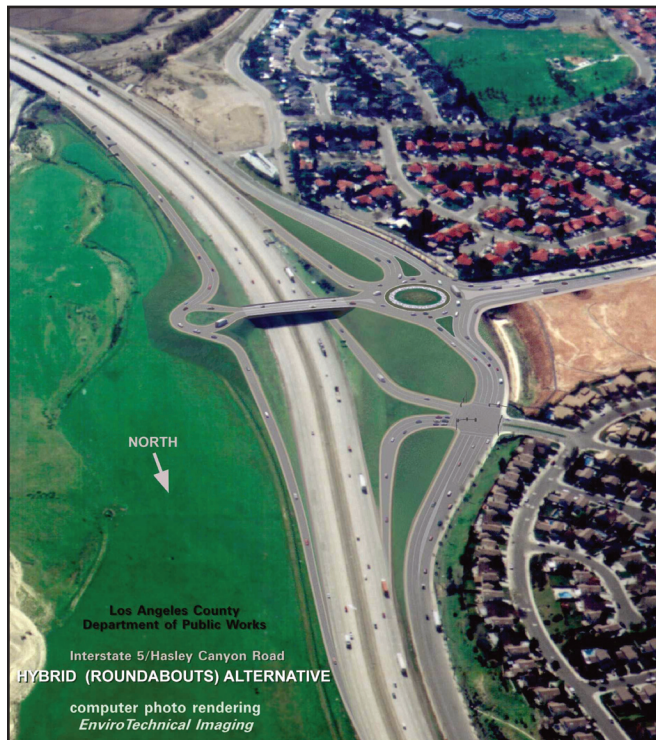
## It's a Green Light for the Long Awaited Hasley Canyon Road/Interstate 5 Interchange Project!

After more than 10 years of planning, design, and seeking approval, the Hasley Canyon Road/Interstate 5 (I-5) Interchange Project is expected to begin construction in Summer, 2007! The Project was approved by Los Angeles County, the Federal Highway Administration, and Caltrans, and endorsed by the Castaic Town Council. Construction bids occurred in February with a contract awarded in March 2007. The total project cost is estimated to be \$40 million and is funded through a variety of sources, including developer contributions and Federal and local funds.

After construction, the road is expected to efficiently handle current and future traffic demands. The Project will modify the existing interchange by building modern roundabouts on the east and west sides of the I-5 Freeway.

Construction will also include: Realigning the existing northbound on-ramp and off-ramp and southbound on-ramp; providing new southbound on-ramp and off-ramps connecting to The Old Road; replacing the Hasley Canyon Road overpass to accommodate future traffic lanes on the I-5 Freeway; and retrofitting the I-5 bridge over Castaic Creek for earthquake safety.

This project will be accomplished with minimum closures over a two-year period. If you have further questions, please call Ali Dana at (626) 458-3110.



*The artist rendering shows the roundabout on the eastside of the freeway, which was revised to a circular shape.*

## Living in Unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley

The friendly, close-knit community atmosphere of the Santa Clarita Valley unincorporated areas retain a quiet character—far removed from the hustle and bustle of city life, despite their proximity to the City of Santa Clarita and the metropolitan Los Angeles area. Residents enjoy the best of both worlds in terms of the ability to maintain a suburban or rural lifestyle while enjoying easy access to commerce and local services.

The County of Los Angeles and the City of Santa Clarita have each contributed \$25,000 to conduct an Initial Feasibility Analysis (IFA) to determine the fiscal viability of unincorporated Santa Clarita communities forming their own city, annexing into the City of Santa Clarita or remaining a County community. However, regardless of the final outcome, there is not expected to be a significant difference in the taxes and fees paid by the residents

of unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley and City residents over the long-term. Basic property taxes do not change subsequent to incorporation or annexation and direct assessments on property tax bills tend to vary due to assessments associated with various landscaping and lighting districts.

Some differences between City and County costs include a storm water fee of \$24 a year and a sewer maintenance fee of \$50 a year that City charges, and a five percent Utility Users Tax within unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Los Angeles County will continue its efforts to enhance the quality of life for all Valley residents and provide the highest quality municipal services for our cities and County communities.



## Road Construction Projects – A Look Ahead

### Projects Awarded or Under Construction

- **Bouquet Canyon Road from Vasquez Canyon Road to 1,370 feet north of Bouquet Canyon Creek** – This project to reconstruct and resurface the existing roadway was awarded on August 8, 2006. Work on this project is scheduled to be completed in summer 2007.
- **Sierra Highway between Soledad Canyon Road and Via Princessa over the Southern California Regional Rail Authority** – This project to rehabilitate and replace the existing northbound and southbound bridges is jurisdictionally shared between the County and the City of Santa Clarita. The City of Santa Clarita advertised this project for construction bids on November 20, 2005. Construction is expected to be completed in January 2008.
- **Sloan Canyon Road from Parker Road to 423 feet south of The Old Road** – This project consists of widening the existing roadway to provide for a two way left-turn lane; construction of new curb, gutter, and sidewalk; reconstruction of existing curb ramps; and extension of a storm drain. The project was awarded on January 16, 2007.

### Planned Projects

- **Chiquito Canyon Road** – This project will resurface Hasley Canyon Road from Romero Canyon Road to Galloping Court; Hasley Canyon Road from 4,776 feet west of Valley Glen Street to 120 feet west of Valley Glen Street; and Chiquito Canyon Road from San Martinez Road to Hunstock Avenue. Estimated to be completed before July 2008.
- **San Martinez/Chiquito Canyon Storm Drain** – This project will involve construction of a storm drain along San Martinez Canyon Road from Val Verde Road to Saint Lawrence Street. The project will also include the reconstruction of San Martinez Canyon Road from Parker Street to Neuraschel Street. Construction is anticipated in spring/summer 2007.
- **State Route 126/Commerce Center Drive Interchange Improvement** – This project will involve construction of a grade-separated interchange at the State Route 126/Commerce Center Drive intersection. The project will also involve widening of State Route 126, construction of new freeway ramps, and realignment of Henry Mayo Drive. The project is being designed by the Newhall Land and Farming Company. The County will acquire the necessary right of way and administer the construction contract. The total project cost will be entirely financed with funds from the Newhall Land and Farming Company and

a MTA grant. Construction is anticipated to begin in November 2008.

- **The Old Road at Hillcrest Parkway** – This project to upgrade the traffic signals for left turn phasing is currently under design. The \$49,000 project will be funded with monies from a developer. The modified signals are scheduled to be operational in May 2007.
- **The Old Road at Live Oak Road** – This project to install traffic signals at the intersection of The Old Road and Live Oak Road is currently under design. The signals are scheduled to be operational in May 2007.
- **The Old Road from Lake Hughes Road to Hillcrest Parkway** – This project consists of widening The Old Road from Lake Hughes Road to Hillcrest Parkway to four lanes. A storm drain will also be constructed as part of this project. Environmental documentation is being prepared. The project is tentatively scheduled to be advertised for construction bids in 2009.

### Traffic Maintenance – Working Hard to Keep Your Streets Safe

The following items were completed from July 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006:

- Installed 113 new traffic signs
- Cleaned or replaced 1,566 traffic signs
- Painted 13,289 square feet of pavement markings
- Painted 1,478 linear feet of curb
- Re-painted 191 miles of lane striping
- Responded to 675 routine traffic signal maintenance requests and 856 extra ordinary traffic signal maintenance requests.

In addition, six newly operated traffic signals were installed in Santa Clarita Valley area (including a location within the City) between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2006:

- The Old Road at Market Center
- Hasley Canyon Road at Commerce Center Drive
- Calgrove Boulevard at The Old Road
- Poe Parkway at Stevenson Ranch Parkway
- Henry Mayo Drive at The Old Road
- Callex Drive at Canterbury Court

### Traffic Signal Synchronization – Stop, Go, and Flow!

The Department of Public Works executed an agreement with the South Coast Air Quality Management District for funding of traffic signal synchronization timing and intelligent



transportation system improvements in the unincorporated areas of the Santa Clarita Valley. This project involves:

- Updating the traffic signal timing in the unincorporated Los Angeles County areas adjacent to the City of Santa Clarita. This is anticipated to be completed by July 2008.
- Installing communications between the traffic signals in the unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley areas and Public Works' Traffic Management Center (TMS). This will enable Public Works to receive immediate notification of signal malfunctions, and monitor and maintain the operation of the traffic signals.
- Establishing a connection from the City of Santa Clarita's traffic control system and the County's system via the County's Information Exchange Network (IEN). The IEN enables the exchange of traffic signal data across jurisdictional boundaries, which will provide a seamless view of traffic flow and improve incident response.

### New Street Name Signs Will Tell It All

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is required under Federal regulation to increase the lettering size for street name signs on streets where the speed limit is 30 miles per hour or greater. Since we are implementing the changes, the County is taking the opportunity to include the County seal and the unincorporated community name on each sign. This will provide unincorporated areas with unique community identities. Public Works estimates the upgrade program for the unincorporated areas of the Santa Clarita Valley will include approximately 900 signs. The countywide upgrade program is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2011.

### County 4th of July Fireworks Shows!

Bring the family and join your neighbors to enjoy the sights and sounds at one of the County's Independence Day celebrations!

**CASTAIC:** Sponsored by the West Ranch and Castaic Town Councils, the Castaic Lake fireworks extravaganza begins at 5:00 p.m. on July 4th with a disc jockey and karaoke.

**WEST RANCH:** Fireworks at Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park in Stevenson Ranch begin at 9:05 p.m. on July 4th.



## Parks and Recreation

Unincorporated area residents of the Santa Clarita Valley enjoy a rich recreational environment of regional and local parks, expansive trail systems and natural areas. The Department of Parks and Recreation offers diverse physical, educational and cultural programming at their facilities. The County strives to enhance the community environment through ongoing development of County parks, trails and preservation of natural areas and open space.



### William S. Hart Regional Park

This 265 acre site is complete with historical buildings, a petting zoo, and live bison stock. Stage and film actor, author, and philanthropist William S. Hart donated the land, historical mansion and ranch house to the County of Los Angeles in 1946. The historical mansion is operated by the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum.

#### Events

August 18, 2007	Silent Under the Stars
September 22-23, 2007	Native American Pow Wow
October 14, 2007	Bow Wows and Meows

For more information, call **(661) 254-4584**.



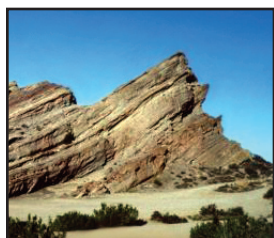
### Placerita Canyon Nature Center

Located in Newhall, residents enjoy this 350 acre natural area which is home to the famous "Oak of the Golden Dream," one of the first places where gold was discovered in California in 1842. There is also an early frontier cabin called "Walker's Cabin" a reminder of early frontier living. The park maintains eight miles of hiking trails, one mile of which is accessible to wheelchairs and strollers. A classroom and various live animal exhibits make the Nature Center an adventure for families, students and avid naturalists. Adjacent to the Nature Center building is a museum that features natural history displays. The Nature Center building is scheduled for upgrading.

#### Event

Saturdays at 11 a.m.	Family Nature Walk
Saturdays at 1 p.m.	Animal Presentations

For more information, call **(661) 259-7721**.



## Vasquez Rocks Natural Area and Nature Center

Many western movies were filmed at this 905-acre park which is a popular hiking, picnicking and equestrian area. The park is located in the high desert near Agua Dulce Springs and features unusual rock formations,

Tataviam Indian sites, and a seasonal stream. The principal plant communities are juniper woodland, chaparral, and riparian.

## Tesoro Adobe Historic Park

In November 2005, the County dedicated the Tesoro Adobe Historic Park comprised of the 2,500 square foot ranch house and its various buildings, built and owned by noted western film actor Harry Carey in the 1920s and 1930s. The western movie elite, including John Wayne, William S. Hart, and Gary Cooper, often visited Tesoro Adobe. In 1952, the adobe property was purchased by the Clougherty family, owners of the Farmer John Company, who maintained it for another 50 years. The original historic adobe property was renovated and donated to Los Angeles County and will provide public access to the buildings and property in perpetuity. Visitors are encouraged to view the historic buildings and enjoy the outdoors. Programs will be developed for third and fourth grade school children studying California history and for adult visitors interested in participating in interactive and docent programs.

## Castaic Lake State Recreation Area



Castaic Lake State Recreation Area is a spectacular facility featuring two lakes and a wide variety of year-round recreational activities. The main reservoir, Castaic Lake, has 29 miles

of shoreline and is one of the largest man-made lakes in Southern California. Besides recreation, this California State Water Project Lake provides drinking and agricultural water to the surrounding counties.

The lower lake, Castaic Lagoon, is solely for recreation. Non-powered boats use the lagoon for fishing, paddling and sailing. There are swim beaches on the west shoreline and camping and shoreline fishing on the east shoreline. The park offers picnic areas and children's play areas. Castaic Lake State Recreation Area also provides several miles of multi-use trails on the west side of the park with vistas of the lakes, the surrounding mountains and the Santa Clarita Valley.

## Events

July 4, 2007

July 15, 2007

July 21 & August 18, 2007

October 7, 2007

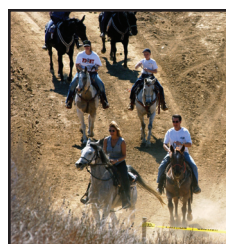
4th of July Fireworks Show

Wakeboard Festival

Moonlight Fishing

Catch A Special Thrill Fishing Event for disabled and disadvantaged youth

## Santa Clarita Valley Trails Master Plan Update



On January 9, 2007, the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution amending the Areawide Plans for the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys to increase the number and miles of trails proposed for the County's Trail's Master Plan. The County's new master plan for the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys will include 191

miles of proposed and constructed trails. This effort was made possible by the dedication and enthusiasm of the many volunteers associated with the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Committee and the staff of the County's Department of Parks and Recreation and Regional Planning.

This new plan will assist the County in preserving the historical equestrian lifestyle in this part of the County and encourage additional open space in an area that is faced with the pressures of growing development. By adopting these trails as part of the master plan, the Department of Parks and Recreation will be able to add trail easement conditions with the appropriate County standards to future developments. Recently, four miles of trail (as a part of the new Sand Canyon Extension Trail) were constructed by a developer as a result of a tract map condition for the Fair Oaks Ranch project east of Highway 14. Another seven miles of trail (as part of the High Country Trail) will be constructed by a developer as a result of the tract map condition for the Newhall Ranch project west of Interstate 5.



All residents of the Santa Clarita Valley are welcome to check out books and to attend many special events that will be going on at the County Libraries in your neighborhood this summer. The County of Los Angeles Public Library offers the Summer Reading Program in Valencia, Newhall and Canyon Country. The program is open free of charge to all children, preschool through 8th grade. Teens have their own Summer Reading activities.

The Santa Clarita Valley Bookmobile brings library service to outlying areas of Castaic and Val Verde. In addition, the Library offers Live Homework Help, an online service to assist students with their homework. Live Homework Help is free of charge



## Parks and Recreation Local and Regional Facilities

Vasquez Rocks Natural Area	10700 Escondido Canyon Road	Agua Dulce	(661) 268-0840
Castaic Lake Recreation Area	32132 Ridge Route Road	Castaic	(661) 257-4050
Castaic Sports Complex	31320 N. Castaic Road	Castaic	(661) 775-8865
Del Valle County Park	28201 W. Sloan Canyon Road	Castaic	(661) 259-1750
Hasley Canyon Park	28700 W. Quincy Street	Castaic	(661) 259-1750
Heritage Junction Historic Park	24101 San Fernando Road	Newhall	(661) 254-1275
Placerita Canyon Park\Nature Center	19152 Placerita Canyon Road	Newhall	(661) 259-7721
William S. Hart Regional Park	24151 San Fernando Road	Newhall	(661) 259-0855
David March Park	28310 North Via Joyce	Santa Clarita	(661) 259-1750
Dr. Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park	26233 W. Faulkner Drive	Stevenson Ranch	(661) 222-9536
Jake Kuredjian Park	25265 Pico Canyon Road	Stevenson Ranch	(661) 259-1750
Pico Canyon Park	Stevenson Ranch	Stevenson Ranch	(661) 259-1750
Chesebrough Park	23505 Sunset Hills Drive	Valencia	(661) 259-1750
Northridge Park	27400 North Grandview	Valencia	(661) 259-1750
Tesoro Adobe Historic Park	29350 Avenida Rancho Tesoro	Valencia	(661) 702-8953
Val Verde Park	30300 W. Arlington Road	Val Verde	(661) 257-4014

## Parks and Recreation Facilities - Planned or Under Construction

North Lake Park	10.0 Acres (Approx.)	Castaic
Sterling Gateway Park	14.0 Acres	Val Verde
Wickham Park	6.5 Acres	Stevenson Ranch

with a County library card and is geared to students in grades 4 through 12. For more information, or to use Live Homework Help, log on to [www.librarytutor.org](http://www.librarytutor.org) or call (562) 940-8522.

## Transit Services – All Aboard the Santa Clarita Transit

### Santa Clarita Transit Service

The Santa Clarita Transit Service is a joint effort between the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and the City of Santa Clarita to provide public transit bus service in the Santa Clarita Valley area. There are eight local routes and various station links serving the Santa Clarita Valley. The Santa Clarita Transit Service also provides commuter service between Santa Clarita and other cities and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. All Santa Clarita Transit buses are wheelchair accessible. Additionally, Santa Clarita Transit provides wheelchair accessible van transportation to seniors over 60 years of age, and to certified passengers with disabilities.

For more information, the public may call **(661) 294-1287 (661-294-1BUS)** or visit the website at [www.santaclaritatransit.com](http://www.santaclaritatransit.com).

### Summer Beach Bus Service

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and the City of Santa Clarita sponsors the Santa Clarita Summer Beach Bus Service. This service provides Santa

Clarita Valley area residents with affordable transportation to Santa Monica Beach during the hot summer months. The service will continue during the 2007 summer season. The specific details will be available in early June 2007.

For additional information including the 2007 schedule, the public may call our toll free phone number at **(888) 769-1122** or visit our website at [www.LAGoBus.info](http://www.LAGoBus.info) and click on the "Recreational Transit Services" link in the left hand column.



### Bus Stop Amenities

Between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2006, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works installed 33 non advertising bus stop shelters, 10 bus stop benches, and 53 trash receptacles with dome covers at bus stops in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County surrounding the City of Santa Clarita. These amenities are currently maintained by the County maintenance contractor, ShelterCLEAN Inc.

To report a dirty shelter, excess trash, or ask questions regarding the Bus Stop Amenities Program, please contact Public Works at **(626) 458-3961**.



## Keeping Santa Clarita Valley Clean – Environmental Programs and Events



### Smart Gardening Workshops

Do you want to learn techniques to get a really great looking yard and garden while using less water, energy, and fewer resources? The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works can help. Public Works offers free hands-on demonstration workshops where residents learn the techniques of backyard composting, worm composting, grass recycling, water-wise gardening, and fire-wise gardening. Join us at an upcoming workshop in the City of Santa Clarita.

For future events and further information on these programs or other environmental programs offered by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, please call **(888) 253-2652 (888-CLEAN-LA)** or visit **[www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com)**.



### Hazardous Household/Electronic Waste (HHW/E-Waste)

Don't know what to do with your Household Hazardous Waste/Electronic Waste? Bring your old TVs, light bulbs, pesticides, paints, and other hazardous household and electronic waste to one of our collection events!

Los Angeles County residents can discard household hazardous waste, including antifreeze, car batteries, used motor oil, paint, pesticides, household batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, and electronic waste (e.g., TVs, monitors, computers, VCRs, stereos, and cell phones), at a free Countywide HHW/E-Waste collection event. These collection events provide a free and convenient means for County residents to manage household hazardous waste and e-waste, and prevent these wastes from being disposed at municipal solid waste landfills. In 2006, we held two collection events in Santa Clarita where over 550,000 pounds of HHW/E-Waste was collected.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our collection events! For more information and dates of future collection events, please call **(888) 253-2652** or visit **[www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com)**.

### 2006 Santa Clara River Earth Day – Kids, Trees, and Lots of Fun!



*Local Santa Clarita Valley students pitch in to help “green” the Santa Clara River area during Earth Day 2006*

As part of Public Works’ ongoing effort to raise environmental awareness and instill pride in the community, the Department hosted the May 3, 2006, Earth Day event at the Santa Clara River Watershed in unincorporated Castaic, near the intersection of Cherry Drive and Parker Road. The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works joined with local school children and the community to “green” the Santa Clara River Watershed. The event consisted of planting 220 native trees and shrubs with the assistance of 40 nearby school students. Food and refreshments were also provided through local donations. The event provided an excellent opportunity to teach students and community members to be environmental stewards. Kudos to all who participated and made this event a great success!

For information on protecting the environment and keeping your community clean, please call **(888) 253-2652 (888-CLEAN-LA)**.

### Landscape and Lighting Act Districts

In the Santa Clarita Valley, your communities benefit from 37 Landscaping and Lighting Act Districts. Your assessments maintain landscaped areas and open spaces surrounding your communities.



## Recycle Tires and We All Win!

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works offers residents free waste tire collection events to drop off scrap tires for recycling. Our last event was on October 28, 2006, in the Santa Clarita Valley where we collected 400 tires. These tires are recycled into beneficial materials such as playground fill and roofing shingles, rather than disposed in landfills.

Through the Waste Tire Recycling Program, the County held three tire collection events in Santa Clarita Valley since 2005 collecting a total of 2,305 tires. The County coordinates the events with the city and the program is sponsored by corporations that are involved with the tire industry.

If you have old tires you wish to discard, please take them to one of these events. Not only does the environment benefit, but you will also receive a coupon for a 15 percent discount on Bridgestone tires. Come visit us at our next event!

For more information, please visit [www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com).



## First Class Trash Collection Services for Unincorporated Communities in Santa Clarita Valley, Coming January 2008

Trash collection services in several County unincorporated areas are currently provided by private waste haulers through an open-market system where each resident directly arranges for services with the hauler. Although many waste haulers are doing a good job, this system is unable to meet demands created by changes in Federal and State laws, public attitudes towards environmental protection, and consumers' demands for better services and protection against excessive rate increases.

To address these issues, the County Board of Supervisors adopted an Ordinance in 2004 authorizing a franchise system for trash collection services in County unincorporated areas. Under the franchise system, each private hauler will

be required to enter into a franchise agreement and comply with County's service requirements.

The County held community meetings in May 2006 to inform residents about the franchise trash collection services proposed for the unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley. Input and comments received from residents at these meetings and from survey cards are currently under review. Implementation of these franchise trash collection services is tentatively scheduled for January 2008. For more information, please call (800) 993-5844.

## Graffiti Abatement Expands to Cover More Communities in Unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is responsible for graffiti removal in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. In 2006, a total of 30,315 requests were logged Countywide at the DPW Graffiti Hotline—(800) 675-4357. Public Works expanded existing graffiti removal contracts for the unincorporated communities of the Santa Clarita Valley on November 16, 2006. The communities of Val Verde, Stevenson Ranch, Castaic, and Fair Oaks are now all covered. With the increase in requests for removal, the need for an automated dispatching system was recognized and created. This system was started in June 2006 and when you log in requests, it determines jurisdiction or the contract that is responsible in that area, assigns a referral number, and sends requests to the correct party. The Department's graffiti removal goal is to respond within 48 hours for non-emergency requests. With the additional contracts and the Graffiti Abatement Referral System streamlining the abatement process, our communities benefit from improved aesthetics and a better way of life.

## 24-HOUR GRAFFITI HOTLINE: (800) 675-4357



As a resident of the Santa Clarita Valley, you can dial 2-1-1 to access an array of health and human services information. If you are a resident of the unincorporated area, 2-1-1 can also assist you with municipal services including code enforcement.



## Water Projects

### Using Storm Water to Provide More Water in the Future

Did you know that increasing water demands in the area and climate changes require the capture of additional stormwater? Capturing additional stormwater can be used to replenish groundwater for the future sustainability of water supplies. The Department of Public Works is studying the Santa Clara River and its tributaries for the potential of increased groundwater recharge within the underlying aquifer. The study will identify potential projects and quantify their estimated water conservation benefits.

### Agencies Gather to Create Historical Partnership in Preparation for the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

The County of Los Angeles Flood Control District (represented by staff from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works) will be partnering with the Castaic Lake Water Agency, the City of Santa Clarita, the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, the Newhall County Water District, and the Valencia Water Company to consider the preparation of an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) to explore water management issues for the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed. Some of the goals of the IRWMP are to improve water supply reliability, promote water conservation, improve water quality, provide flood protection, conserve habitat, and expand recreational opportunities in the region. Ultimately, the IRWMP would provide a comprehensive vision of water-related resources for the region.

Regions that prepare IRWMPs in compliance with State guidelines will be eligible to receive grant funds and other future state grants, such as the recently approved Proposition 84. A successful IRWMP for the Upper Santa Clara Watershed would yield a comprehensive water plan and potentially lead to other local, state, and federal funding to accomplish the goals of the IRWMP.

The Flood Control District and its partner agencies want to work with the community to identify water-related goals, opportunities and needs, and projects that best address them. The public was invited to join the first stakeholder meeting that occurred on February 20, 2007, at Hart Hall in Santa Clarita. If you have any questions about the IRWMP, please contact Mr. Bruce Hamamoto of the Watershed Management Division at (626) 458-5918.



## Fire Department

### New Fire Stations on the Way!

If you haven't already heard, Fire Station (FS) 108 is on its way to the community. The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, the Chief Administrative Office and Fire Department are all working to deliver a new fire station. It will be located at 28799 Rock Canyon Drive in Santa Clarita. The site is currently graded and fenced in anticipation of construction.

The architectural design plan conforms to the existing surrounding community and blends in with many of their design features. The proposed project is a new 3,823-square-foot fire station that consists of a two bay apparatus room, a main office, day room, kitchen, exercise room, and dormitory quarters for six-shift personnel. The facility will house one engine and patrol vehicle. Construction is anticipated to start in late 2007 with completion in early 2009.

Meanwhile, two temporary stations—FS 132 at 29310 Sand Canyon Road and FS 156 at 24505 Copper Hill Drive—are expected to open in summer 2007. These stations will be staffed 24 hours, seven days a week.



With the opening of these new stations, the County of Los Angeles Fire Department will have 12 fire stations, strategically located throughout the Santa Clarita Valley. There are also three fire camps in the Santa Clarita Valley to suppress wildland fires and control fuel management for both the City of Santa Clarita and the unincorporated communities. In addition, the Fire Department works directly with the Santa Clarita Valley communities to offer:

- A Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T) which provides training that enables the City and the unincorporated area residents to provide for themselves during a major emergency if immediate public assistance is unavailable.
- Special youth programs including the Junior Lifeguards, Rescue Youth, and the Junior Fire Chiefs.
- The Baby Safe Surrender and Safehouse Shelter programs.



## Sheriff

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has provided law enforcement for the residents of the area for over 100 years. The Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station has its own Detective Bureau and Search and Rescue Team. The Station is staffed by 175 Sheriff Deputies that serve residents of both unincorporated and incorporated Santa Clarita, the latter under a County/City contract. While unincorporated residents receive a defined level of law enforcement services from the Sheriff's Department, it should be noted:



- The Sheriff's Department will deploy additional resources from within the City and other areas to handle a situation requiring additional resources in the unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley.
- California Highway Patrol provides traffic enforcement in unincorporated Los Angeles County. The City's contract with the Sheriff's Department includes traffic enforcement within the City.
- All residents enjoy the benefits of the Sheriff's Community Relations services including Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch, and Vacation Security Checks. In addition to a Community Advisory Committee, residents are encouraged to volunteer as Reserve Deputies. Youth between the ages of 15 to 18 are invited to join the Law Enforcement Explorer Program. For more information on these volunteer opportunities contact the Station at (661) 255-1121.



## District Attorney

The Office of the District Attorney provides deputy district attorneys and investigators at their Valencia Field Office. They oversee specialized programs to combat gangs, public corruption, organized crime, family violence, stalking, hate crimes, consumer fraud, and other high impact crimes.



## Los Angeles County Police

The Office of Public Safety has 28 officers, stationed in Castaic, that are responsible for assuring safety at all County parks and other County facilities in the unincorporated areas of the Santa Clarita Valley.



## Public Works

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works offers a broad range of services to the unincorporated areas of the Santa Clarita Valley, such as the design, construction, operation, maintenance, and repair of roads, bridges, sewers, water supply systems, flood control facilities, water quality systems, water conservation facilities, design and construction of capital projects, issuance of building permits, and plan checking services for land development purposes.



*Dispatch workstations at Public Works Headquarters are equipped to allow operators to handle emergency calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week.*

Some examples of the services Public Works provides to the unincorporated areas of the Santa Clarita Valley include:

- **24/7 Dispatch** – Dispatch operators are available to respond to inquiries and emergencies.  
Phone: (800) 675-4357
- **Building Permits** – Building and Safety staff at our local Valencia office review, approve and issue permits for private construction projects.  
Phone: (661) 222-2940
- **Street Sweeping** – Performed weekly on all curbed streets and alleys.  
Phone: (661) 947-7173
- **Inspection and Resurfacing of Roadways** – Monthly inspections are performed to identify and repair roadways.  
Phone: (661) 947-7173
- **Pothole Repair** – Repaired within 24 hours of being reported.  
Phone: (800) 675-4357
- **Repair of Concrete Sidewalk/Curb and Gutters** – Performed in order requests are received.  
Phone: (661) 947-7173



- **Repair of Concrete Sidewalk/Curb and Gutters** – Performed in order requests are received.  
Phone: (661) 947-7173
- **Parkway Tree Trimming** – Fast growth trees are trimmed every two years and slow growth trees are trimmed every five years.  
Phone: (661) 947-7173
- **Slurry Seal** – Local roadways are slurry sealed on a 5-to-7-year cycle.  
Phone: (661) 947-7173
- **Traffic Sign Maintenance** – Maintenance performed on a three-year cycle. Respond to 90 percent of critical sign emergency callouts within three hours.  
Phone: (800) 675-4357
- **Traffic Signal Maintenance** – Routine inspection and maintenance of each traffic signal on a monthly basis. Respond to 75 percent of emergency traffic signal callouts within two hours.  
Phone: (800) 675-4357

## Road Closure Information at Your Fingertips

Now with the speed of a keystroke you can check where the road closures are in your community. The Road Closure Website provides you with information about the closures and estimated reopening dates on public roads within the unincorporated areas of the County. With eNotify, the website will send up-to-the-minute reports regarding the road closures to your e-mail address or via a text message to your cell phone. For specific information about the Road Closure Website and eNotify, visit: [www.ladpw.org/mpm/roadclosure](http://www.ladpw.org/mpm/roadclosure).

## Countywide Code Enforcement Coordination

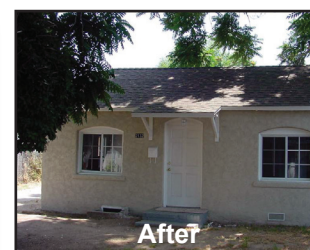
In 2004, the Board of Supervisors approved funding for the establishment of a Code Enforcement Unit within the Office of County Counsel and the reestablishment of a Code Enforcement Section in the District Attorney's Office to assist code enforcement officers in prosecuting civil and criminal code enforcement cases.

The County Counsel Code Enforcement Unit and the District Attorney's Code Enforcement Section work with property owners and area residents to assist code violators in bringing properties into compliance. If violations are not resolved through voluntary compliance, civil action is pursued by County Counsel with administrative fines and non-compliance fees and/or criminal prosecution is pursued by the District Attorney. The District Attorney's Office also provides investigative support and peace officer backup to code enforcement officers, as well as education in the effective use of the criminal justice system to obtain compliance.

## Protect Your Property Value

The County has stepped up its code enforcement efforts in the Santa Clarita Valley by creating a Nuisance Abatement Team (NAT) that focuses on serious violations requiring the response of multiple County departments. Departments involved in this effort include the Department of Public Works, Regional Planning, Fire, Sheriff, the District Attorney, and Environmental Health. Other County agencies are contacted as needed such as: Animal Care and Control, Children and Family Services, and Business License.

If you would like to report multiple, serious property or business code violations to the NAT, you can call **(661) 222-2940** or fax your complaint to **(661) 222-2947**. If your complaint does not warrant a visit by the NAT, it will be referred to the appropriate agency and you will be notified accordingly.



## County Municipal Service Center

In order to provide easily accessible customer-oriented service to the unincorporated communities, the Public Works, Building and Safety District Office, not only offers building permit services, but also houses other County staff that can address your business license needs, issue construction permits, provide Fire Department plan check review and address planning requirements. The District Office is located at 23757 Valencia Boulevard, Valencia, CA. 91355. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

#### Fifth Supervisorial District Santa Clarita Valley Field Office

23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 265  
Santa Clarita, CA 91355  
Phone (661) 287-3657  
Fax (661) 254-445





## Upcoming Events at some of your Local Parks in the Santa Clarita Valley

For a complete listing of LA County parks in your area, please see page 5.

Date	Event	Location
July 27, 2007	Val Verde Day: Back to Val Verde	Val Verde Park
August 24, 2007	Val Verde World Festival	Val Verde Park
October 31, 2007	Halloween Program	Val Verde Park
November 20, 2007	Community Thanksgiving Dinner	Val Verde Park
December 10, 2007	Val Verde Holiday Program	Val Verde Park

For more information, please call (661) 257-4014.

July 4, 2007	4th of July Celebration	Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park
August 18, 2007	Summer Concert in the Park	Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park
September 11, 2007	Patriot Day Remembrance	Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park
October 31, 2007	Fall Festival	Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park
November 21, 2007	Thanksgiving Turkey Toss	Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park
December 15, 2007	Holiday Celebration	Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park
TBD, March 2008	Easter Egg Hunt	Richard H. Rioux Memorial Park

For more information, please call (661) 222-9536.

July 4, 2007	4th of July – Fireworks & Musical Event	Castaic Lake Recreation Area
July 21, 2007	Moonlight Fishing	Castaic Lake Recreation Area
August 18, 2007	Moonlight Fishing	Castaic Lake Recreation Area
September 8, 2007	Moonlight Fishing	Castaic Lake Recreation Area
December 1, 2007	Lighted Boat Parade	Castaic Lake Recreation Area

For more information, please call (661) 257-4050.

